



PATENT  
Atty Dkt. No. 63.024

#13/D

6/27/98

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MICHAEL HOUGHTON et al.

Serial No.: 08/441,443

Filed: May 15, 1995

Group Art Unit: 1815

Examiner: M. Zeman

For: NANBV DIAGNOSTICS AND VACCINES

AMENDMENT

The Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is  
being deposited with the United States Postal  
Service as First Class mail in an envelope  
addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and  
Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on  
this 16 day of June, 19 98  
By: [Signature]

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed December 18, 1997 in the  
subject application with a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 18,  
1998. Accordingly, a petition for a three-month extension of time and the requisite fee is  
submitted herewith, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17(c) and 1.136.

Reconsideration of the subject application in light of the following amendments and  
remarks is respectfully requested.

Amendments

Please amend claims 40-48 as follows:

Claim 40. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a hepatitis C virus  
(HCV) antisense polynucleotide capable of specifically hybridizing to the sense strand of the  
genome of an HCV [or its complement], wherein the polynucleotide comprises a contiguous  
sequence of at least 8 nucleotides complementary to the sense strand of the genome of an  
HCV [or its complement], and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

In claim 41, line 1, please replace "antisense polynucleotide" with the phrase  
-pharmaceutical composition--.